WINTER SHOW AT FLORIDA STATE FAIR - Mrs. John M. Wylie

Dear Friends,

The American Hibiscus Society will hold a one day competitive show at the Florida State Fair, Saturday, February 15, 1964. We ask your cooperation in informing members and all interested parties in your vicinity.

Beginning Sunday, February 9, and continuing until February 15, the Sunset and Ridge Chapters will maintain a 45 foot exhibit, and will deeply appreciate any help you can give in the way of blooms.

For the competitive show on Feburary 15, the rules of the American Hibiscus Society will generally prevail, with the possible exception that any exhibitor who wishes to compete in the show, but cannot come in person, may ship his blooms to us by bus.

Entries close at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 15, and judging will take place from 11 a.m. until noon. All judges will be accredited A. H. S. judges.

No award may be removed until 10 p.m. February 15.

I am very optimistic that the show will be a tremendous success and we are looking forward to seeing you all there. There are many lovely ribbons to be won, and nine Tri-Colors in addition to two Sweepstakes awards and three silver trophies for the best Amateur, Collector and Commercial bloom in the show.

All the awards are there for the winning, so let's all come out and make the Fourth Annual A. H. S. show at the Florida State Fair a huge success. Anyone desiring further information please write to me at 6904 Interbay Boulevard, Tampa, 16, Florida.

See you at the Fair!

Sincerely,
Mrs. John M. Wylie
Show Chairman

CULTURE FOR FEBRUARY, MARCH AND APRIL - Walker Lyon

With full realization that location, soil condition, drainage, shade and natural moisture are important considerations in the culture of Hibiscus, I shall attempt to outline a procedure that has been highly succesful in my experience. It came as a result of much advice from successful nurserymen and growers from all areas of Florida, combining and utilizing what seemed to me to be the most logical parts of the fertilizing programs employed by all advisers.

Instead of adhering strictly to February, March, and April, let us think of this as suggestions for the first three months of Spring culture, due to the difference in climatic conditions in different areas. Many of the best growers consider Hibiscus one of the plants that thrive best on a consistent program of feeding and watering. They seem to be creatures of habit, so the watering schedule should be set according to the needs in your particular garden, and carried through the growing season on a scheduled timing basis, except, of course when rains give a helping hand.

As for feedings, one bit of advice came consistently from the most successful growers, "SET UP A FEEDING SCHEDULE ON YOUR CALENDAR, AND FOLLOW IT TO THE DATE". The second most frequent suggestion, "FERTILIZE LIGHTLY, BUT OFTEN".

So, the outline that has worked so well for me is as follows: for plants in the ground or in 5 gal cans use TWO week intervals. All fertilizers should have 40 to 50% organics and have the trace elements included in their formulas. Feb. 5th one Tablespoonful 8-8-8 followed by spraying with a completely soluble Nutritional Spray. Feb. 19th 8-8-8 followed with one Tablespoonful Milorganite or it's equivalent.

Repeat first outline on March 4th with Nutritional Spray. Repeat second outline on March 18th with

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